

the land I was upon. My body is made of its sand. The great spirit gave me legs to walk over it, eyes to see it, hands to aid myself, a head with which I think. The sun which shines warm and bright brings forth our crops, and the moon brings back spirits of our warriors, our fathers, our wives and our children. The white man comes; he grows pale and sickly; why can we not live in peace? They steal our horses and cattle, cheat us and take our lands. They may shoot us, chain our hands and feet, *but the red man's heart will be free.* I have come to you in peace, and have taken you by the hand; I will sleep in your camp, though your soldiers stand around me thick as pine trees. I am done. When we know each other better I will say more."

Through the gentleness and the humanity of the "gallant Worth," Wild Cat at this meeting agreed to emigrate with his people. He was permitted to leave the camp for this purpose. By some contradictory order, while on his way to his warriors, he was captured by one of our commands, put in chains and transported to New Orleans.

When General Worth learned of this violation of his pledge he felt the honor of our country had again been betrayed, and acting on his own discretion, sent a trusty officer to New Orleans for the return of Wild Cat. General Worth by this act, not only showed the nobility of his own character, but proved that the savage heart can be touched with kindness and is always keenly alive to honor and faithful pledges. Moreover the justice of the act had much to do with the successful turning of the war.

When the ship, which brought the chief, reached Tampa, General Worth was there to meet it and publicly apologized to the brave old warrior for the mistake that had been made. Our gallant commander had proven his humane heart, although at expense of both time and money. Through the policy of General Worth, the whole character of the war was changed. On the 31st of July, 1841, Wild Cat's entire band was encamped at Tampa, ready to be transported to their new homes.